



Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Board of Counseling, Department of Health Professions
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	18VAC115-20-10 et seq. 18VAC115-30-10 et seq. 18VAC115-40-10 et seq. 18VAC115-50-10 et seq. 18VAC115-60-10 et seq.
Regulation title	Regulations Governing the Practice of Counseling Regulations Governing the Certification of Substance Abuse Counselors and Substance Abuse Counseling Assistants Regulations Governing the Certification of Rehabilitation Providers Regulations Governing The Practice Of Marriage And Family Therapy Regulations Governing The Practice Of Licensed Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners
Action title	Reduction of renewal fee
Final agency action date	2/19/10
Document preparation date	2/19/10

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), the agency is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form.

Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*, and Executive Orders 21 (02) and 58 (99).

Summary

Please provide a brief summary of all regulatory changes, including the rationale behind such changes. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.

The Board has made a regulatory change which is exempt from provisions of the Administrative Process Act. In order to reduce an accumulated surplus in the budget of the Board of Counseling, a one-time reduction in renewal fees has been adopted for the renewal due June 30, 2010. The renewal fees for licensed professional counselors, marriage and family therapists, and substance

abuse treatment practitioners will be reduced for the annual renewal from \$105 to \$52. The renewal fee for certified substance abuse counselors and certified rehabilitation providers will be reduced from \$55 to \$27, and for substance abuse counseling assistants from \$40 to \$20.

This action is exempt from the Virginia Administrative Process Act in § 2.2-4006 A 7: “Regulations of the regulatory boards served by (i) the Department of Labor and Industry pursuant to Title 40.1 and (ii) the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation or the Department of Health Professions pursuant to Title 54.1 that are limited to reducing fees charged to regulants and applicants.”

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.

On February 19, 2010, the Board of Counseling adopted exempt actions to Chapter 20, Regulations Governing the Practice of Counseling; Chapter 30, Regulations Governing the Certification of Substance Abuse Counselors and Substance Abuse Counseling Assistants; Chapter 40, Regulations Governing the Certification of Rehabilitation Providers; Chapter 50, Regulations Governing The Practice Of Marriage And Family Therapy; and Chapter 60, Regulations Governing The Practice Of Licensed Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners to reduce the renewal fee for the June 30, 2010.

Family impact

Assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.

There is no impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.